



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)

(Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Administration

Subject of possible rule making:

The Community Services Division is proposing to repeal WAC 388-273-0010, "Purpose of the Washington telephone assistance program.", WAC 388-273-0020, "Who may receive Washington telephone assistance program (WTAP)?", WAC 388-273-0025, "Benefits you receive as a WTAP participant.", WAC 388-273-0030, "How you can apply for WTAP.", and WAC 388-273-0035, "What we reimburse the local telephone company.", and any other related rules as may be required.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:

RCW 74.08.090, RCW 80.36.470

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:

RCW 80.36.470 prohibits enrollment in the Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) if program expenditures exceed the total amount of funds made available by the legislature. The department is repealing all sections of chapter 388-273 WAC related to WTAP as the program is not funded in the State of Washington 2015-2017 biennium Legislative Budget (ESSB 6052 207).

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:

WTAP is jointly administered by DSHS, the Washington Department of Commerce (Commerce), and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). Commerce and UTC have been notified that the program is not funded for the next biennium, and will be sent written notification. Telephone companies participating in WTAP will be sent a written notice of termination in order to allow them 30 days to notify their customers, as required by RCW 80.36.110 and WAC 480-120-194.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- ☐ Negotiated rule making
- ☐ Pilot rule making
- ☐ Agency study
- ☒ Other (describe)

DSHS welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, DSHS will file a proposal with the Office of the Code Reviser with a notice of proposed rule making. A copy of the proposal will be sent to everyone on the mailing list and to anyone who requests a copy.

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.) Contact: Leslie Kozak

Community Services Division, Economic Services Administration
PO Box 45470
Olympia, WA 98504-5470

Phone: (360) 725-4589

Fax (360) 725-4905

TTY:

E-mail: leslie.kozak@dshs.wa.gov

DATE
July 29, 2015

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Katherine Vasquez

SIGNATURE

TITLE
DSHS Rules Coordinator

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: July 29, 2015

TIME: 11:37 AM

WSR 15-16-050